

## LEGISLATIVE Q & A

One of the Library of Michigan's stated goals is to meet the information needs of the legislature and state government. This is accomplished through services provided by the legislative team found in the LM Public Services Division. But who are these knowledgeable folks and what do they do?

"We target our services and collections to the information needs of the Legislature," says Legislative Outreach Coordinator Elaine Harrison. "We try to find the answers to any questions legislators and their staff may have about a particular topic."

### Who is Calling?

Legislative patrons include individual legislative office staff, such as the legislator, his/her

aides, secretaries, or interns; caucus staff; non-partisan central staffs in both the House and Senate; fiscal agencies; and the Legislative Service Bureau. All services provided by the Library of Michigan are confidential, objective and nonpartisan. For example, if the team receives the same question from two

*continued on page 7.*



## CALL 373-1300

for legislative and state government information needs.

LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN		Hours/Phone:
717 W. Allegan Street P.O. Box 30007 Lansing, MI 48909	9 am-6 pm Monday – Friday 9 am-5 pm Saturday 1 pm-5 pm Sunday	
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Fax	517-373-5853	
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LAW LIBRARY		Hours/Phone:
Law Building – 1st floor 525 W. Ottawa Street P.O. Box 30007 Lansing, MI 48909	8 am-5 pm Monday – Friday	
Reference	517-373-0630	
Fax	517-373-3915	
Email	lmlawlib@libofmich.lib.mi.us	

## IN THIS ISSUE

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- The Electronic Library

## DRUSCHEL AWARDED ALLIE BETH MARTIN AWARD

Pauline Druschel, assistant director for the Novi Public Library, was recently awarded the Allie Beth Martin Award from the Public Library Association of the American Library Association. The Allie Beth Martin Award honors "extraordinary range and depth of knowledge about books and a distinguished ability to share that knowledge." Druschel's extensive work with the Senior Book Discussion Group in Novi and with homebound and institutionalized patrons was recognized by this award. A reception at the Novi Civic Center Atrium honored Druschel. She will receive her award and a \$3,000 honorarium in June at the American Library Association conference in Washington, DC.





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**Access** (ISSN 1051-0818) publishes information about the Library of Michigan and its activities plus other materials of interest to the Michigan library community. Please direct comments or questions to:

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## NEW TRENDS IN LIBRARY SERVICES FOR AGING POPULATION

by Maggie Bacon

Public Services Supervisor  
Services for the Blind and  
Physically Handicapped

From purchasing vitamins, minerals and soft drinks to library services, aging baby boomers are not expected to be shy about their service needs. There often is power in numbers and there are at least 78 million American baby boomers. The Michigan Aging Services System predicts growth rates for the 65 years-and-over population to increase by 10 percent from 2000 to 2010. Further accelerations are projected at 30 percent from 2010 to 2020, a higher rate than any decade since the 1950s.

A recent study for retailers states, "While the most senior of citizens (age 85 and older) are most likely to have severe vision problems, they are out-numbered by younger adults with impairments. A 106 percent increase in the number of adults with severe vision impairments is forecast between 1990 and 2030."

The latest information about aging baby boomers indicate they are sophisticated, well-educated, proactive consumers. These are the folks who entered libraries in droves during the 1980s looking for ways to achieve the American Dream, researching business databases, census information and government regulations. What will they want libraries to provide for them during their retirements?

A proactive consumer recently called the Library of Michigan, Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped after she learned she was losing her sight. She wanted to learn Braille. What agency provided this training? She was an avid computer user and asked what would she need to use her computer effectively. She also wanted information about learning to live independently with a vision loss. What agency

would provide such training? Typically, we receive these calls AFTER someone has lost his/her visual acuity. This was a woman who expected to have access to the same information she has used all her life. Are libraries, not those just for the blind and physically handicapped, prepared for the more sophisticated, proactive senior library user?

The Library of Michigan, Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (LBPH) network focuses on the recreational reading needs of persons unable to use standard print. How will you handle visually impaired patrons entering your library looking for the latest stock quotes, the latest business trends, or the most recent legislation affecting their lives who lack the visual acuity to view the printed word? This growing patron group who once used libraries for achieving the American Dream still expects libraries to meet their informational needs.

## LIVES WORTH LIVING

The American Library Association is offering grants for library book discussion programs that focus on biographies. Entitled "Lives Worth Living," the program is funded by the National Endowment for the Humanities and was created by the New York Council for the Humanities.

ALA's Public Programs Department originally set a January 30 deadline, but did not receive enough good applications. ALA extended the deadline to March 20. Interested libraries should visit the ALA web site at <http://www.ala.org/publicprograms/> and then select "book and media discussion programs" or "updates." The application is also available through the ALA "fax on demand" system at 1-800-545-2433. Press 8, then request #413. Michigan has an excellent track record for securing such grants, an enviable reputation for implementing such programs.

## USF APPLICATIONS POURING IN

by Patricia Curthoys  
Electronic Library  
Development Specialist

The Schools and Libraries Corporation released a comparison by state of the number of Universal Service Fund (USF) applications received as of the afternoon of February 27, 1998. This is not an exact comparison, given the fact that some applicants filed single applications, while others filed multiple forms. However, it does appear to indicate the participation level across the country. The actual number of applications on file with the SLC is much higher, since these numbers were taken from the slcfund web site and do not represent applications for services covered by existing contracts.

AL 199	MT 169
AK 63	NE 136
AZ 90	NV 7
AR 151	NH 82
CA 712	NJ 435
CO 179	NM 66
CT 115	NY 1112
DE 47	NC 105
DC 5	ND 134
FL 199	OH 645
GA 141	OK 324
HI 271	OR 127
ID 93	PA 795
IL 955	RI 14
IN 462	SC 65
IA 530	SD 95
KS 407	TN 104
KY 88	TX 459
LA 136	UT 111
ME 88	VT 99
MD 90	VA 182
MA 275	WA 216
MI 992	WV 15
MN 153	WI 388
MS 90	WY 37
MO 347	

As you can see, Michigan is second only to New York, with its 992 applications. Remember, all properly completed Form 471s received by the SLC by April 14, 1998 will be consid-

ered received simultaneously. For more information, contact Patty Curthoys, the electronic library development specialist, at 517-373-4466, by email at [curthoys@libofmich.lib.mi.us](mailto:curthoys@libofmich.lib.mi.us) or fax her at 517-373-5700.

## UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND UPDATE

by Patricia Curthoys

On March 2, 1998, the Schools and Libraries Corporation (SLC) added new fact sheets to the NECA web site at [www.neca.org/funds/faslc.htm](http://www.neca.org/funds/faslc.htm). The fact sheets include the SLC Client's Commonly Asked Questions, the SLC Fact Sheet on Master Contracts and the SLC Fact Sheet on Wide Area Networks.

The SLC also added some helpful new features to its web site at [www.slcfund.org](http://www.slcfund.org) for applicants and service providers. Included is the site's capability to allow providers to download and print highlights of posted Forms 470. Reports may be generated state by state or for all states; summaries of 470s posted since the web site opened or over the past several days may also be created. For more information, go to Download Reports in the Service Provider Area (see Michigan's data on page 3 of this issue).

A Microsoft Excel template of Form 470 has been added to the SLC web site. Applicants equipped with Microsoft Excel (version 7.0 for Windows 95) may download the template and use it to fill in the form on their computers, print it, sign it and mail it to the SLC Client Service Bureau. The template will also accommodate a transfer of information from other databases into the form. The template is located in the Reference Area of the SLC site under the 471 Application Guidelines.

All Form 471s received by the SLC by April 15 will be included in the 75-day window. SLC will continue to receive Forms 470 and 471 after April 15, but they will be treated on a first-come, first-serve basis. SLC's ability to make funding commitments in response to applications received after the window closes will depend on the total funding commitments it has made in response to applications received during the 75-day window.

Please note that a Form 470 filing is required for all services, both pre-existing and new, where discounts are sought. A Form 471 that requests discounts for pre-existing contracts will not be accepted unless it is based on a previously filed Form 470; contracts for new services cannot be signed before the end of the 28-day posting period.

## STATE AID COORDINATOR LEAVES

Joe Reeves, the state aid coordinator for the Library of Michigan for the past three years, announced on March 2, 1998, his decision to accept an offer from the Capital Area District Library to be its business office manager. Reeves was instrumental in automating the state aid payment process at the Library of Michigan, which resulted in speedier payments to public libraries and library cooperatives. Business Services Director Janet Laverty stated, "Joe's dedication to the library community made him quite popular with public library and cooperative directors." Joe was also responsible for administering the MichiCard program. His last day with the Library of Michigan was March 13.

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## THE DIRECTOR'S CHAIR

### EVALUATING ACCESSMICHIGAN

In the *Apologia* Plato wrote, "The life which is unexamined is not worth living." In today's world of federal and foundation funding, one could say that the "unexamined project is not worth funding."

About a year ago, the Library of Michigan issued a request for proposals (RFP) for a statewide database access project that would make full-text materials, such as reference books, magazine and newspaper articles and pamphlets, indices, abstracts and other services available via the Internet to all libraries and library users around the state. An ad hoc committee of librarians selected OCLC's FirstSearch and IAC's Searchbank as the basis for this project. A total of \$2 million from Library Services and Technology Act funds and an appropriation from the state legislature was invested. The database project became part of the larger endeavor known as **AccessMichigan**.

The OCLC and IAC packages will continue a second year, pending successful negotiation of the necessary contracts. The **AccessMichigan** Steering Committee and its database selection subcommittee are now searching for additional resources to strengthen and enrich these offerings.

On March 30 the Library of Michigan issued an RFP for a contractor to evaluate how we've done. The RFP seeks to answer the following four questions:

- 1) Does the Michigan library community see **AccessMichigan** as an effective way to maximize the use of federal and state dollars, to encourage a level playing field among the state's libraries and to provide useful resources to library users?
- 2) How are librarians and their clients using these databases?
- 3) What features, databases or resources do librarians recommend to improve the system?
- 4) What obstacles prevent some libraries from participating in this project?

The successful bidder will devise an innovative way to answer these questions and provide a report to the Library of Michigan by September 1. I look forward to sharing the results of this evaluation with legislators, foundations and, of course, the library community this fall.

George Needham  
State Librarian

### LSTA WORKSHOP APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ONLINE

LSTA workshop materials and applications for FY 1998 projects (due April 1) were made available online at the Library of Michigan web site. Forms could be downloaded in Microsoft Word or WordPerfect format. Workshop materials included a PowerPoint presentation of the workshops conducted in January 1998, tips on writing a LSTA grant, a list of LSTA subgrant writing resources for statistical information, data on project evaluation and the questions and answers compiled from workshops conducted around the state. New applications for FY 1999 subgrants will be posted soon, with an October 1, 1998 deadline.

Questions about the materials or the LSTA program may be directed to the LSTA team via email at [lsta@libofmich.lib.mi.us](mailto:lsta@libofmich.lib.mi.us). To subscribe to the LSTA listserv, send an email message to [majordomo@listserv.libofmich.lib.mi.us](mailto:majordomo@listserv.libofmich.lib.mi.us) with the subject line blank and "subscribe lsta" in the body. To contact LSTA team members by telephone, please call 517-373-5504 or 373-1587.

## UNDERSTANDING AND USING METADATA

The OCLC Institute invites you to participate in an intensive two and a half-day theoretical and practical exploration of Metadata and its applications. After participating in this seminar, you will be able to:

- 1) understand the foundations of resource description and its application to the Internet;
- 2) understand emerging web standards, such as XML, RDF and the Dublin core and their applications in resource description systems;
- 3) evaluate your information management needs and determine the appropriateness of Metadata for a variety of applications; and
- 4) use Dublin Core metadata in a real-world application.

The seminar consists of lectures, structured lab exercises and group discussions. Within this arrangement participants will receive an overview of web-based resource description systems and detailed instruction in the Dublin Core metadata. Then as a member of a small-project team, participants will design and implement a MARC- or webserver-based resource description system using Metadata records for a real-world collection. Finally the resource description system will be evaluated in terms of design and functionality, including data input, storage, retrieval and display.

For complete details, including seminar dates and location information, and to register on line, visit the OCLC Institute home page at <http://www.oclc.org/institute/index.htm> or contact Erik Jul at [jul@oclc.org](mailto:jul@oclc.org), (614) 764-4364 or (614) 718-7132 FAX.

## COMPACT SHELVING INSTALLED

Suzanne Vyse Schneiderman  
U.S. and Michigan  
Documents Coordinator

The Library of Michigan recently installed over 3,000 feet of compact shelving in its closed-stack Official Michigan documents collection. The shelving doubles the storage space available and provides growth room for approximately 10 years. The Official Michigan Documents Collection is a uniquely archival group of more than 45,000 state government agency publications, dating back to territorial times.

The motorized shelving features dual controls and a safety sweep sensor that prevents the units from closing on material and staff. When the shelves are closed, the materials are also protected from damaging light and dust. The entire project, including structural work to the room and shifting the collection, required two months to complete.

## FIRE DESTROYS MILLIONS IN BOOKS

The Public Enrichment Foundation, a nonprofit literacy program that provides free books to Michigan's less fortunate children and adults, suffered the loss of over \$3.2 million worth of books in an early morning fire on March 24, 1998. The fire, first reported at 10:15 p.m. at the foundation's Kingsford, Michigan, warehouse in the Upper Peninsula, burned over 389 pallets of books. Executive Director Larry Seratti said, "This is a severe setback for our foundation, but more importantly the individuals who would have received these books free will suffer the greatest loss."

Since the foundation began operating in 1987, it has provided over \$24 million of books to approximately 300 organizations.

## NOTED GENEALOGIST TO SPEAK AT LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN

Respected genealogist and researcher John P. Colletta, Ph.D. will speak at the Library of Michigan on Saturday, June 6, 1998, from 1:00 until 3:30 p.m. in the Library and Michigan Historical Center Forum on the first floor. Colletta's presentation will focus on strategies for conducting research at the Library of Congress and the National Archives.

Colletta, one of the world's foremost experts on immigration to America, speaks nationally on a variety of genealogical topics. He is best known for his book, *They Came In Ships: A Guide to Finding Your Immigrant Ancestor's Arrival Record*. He was featured in the PBS series, *Ancestors*, and is regularly interviewed on NBC's *Today Show*, CNN and the Voice of America. Colletta is also recognized for his many lectures and workshops at the National Archives, Library of Congress and Smithsonian Institution.

Colletta served as a faculty member of the Catholic University of America and American University from 1975 until 1985. Since 1985 he has worked as a lecturer and writer on resources and methods for family history research. He currently serves as a faculty member at the National Institute on Genealogical Research (National Archives), Institute of Genealogy and Historical Research and Institute of Genealogical Studies.

Colletta's talk is cosponsored by the Library of Michigan Foundation and the Library of Michigan's Public Service Division. If you have questions contact Randy Riley, Michigan and Genealogy Special Collections Coordinator or Carole Callard, Abrahms Collection Genealogy Specialist at 517-373-1300.

## UPCOMING LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN WORKSHOPS

**The New Directors' Workshop**, to be held at the Library of Michigan, is scheduled for November 17, 1998. The workshop will cover items of interest to new Michigan library directors, including services provided by the Library of Michigan other libraries in Michigan; how to access these services; and details state aid requirements, penal fine funding procedures and necessary reports.

**The Beginning Workshop**, an introduction to public librarianship, will be held at North Central Michigan College in Petoskey from May 17 to 22, 1998. This week-long event will cover organization of library materials, reference, administrative policies, library law, cataloging and selection, public relations, children's services and more. Full registration is \$280. Qualified attendees who complete this workshop may earn a Level VII Certificate of Library Experience (3.2 CEUs). For more information about either workshop, contact Bryon Sitler at 517-373-2458 or email him at [bsitler@libofmich.lib.mi.us](mailto:bsitler@libofmich.lib.mi.us).

**Public Libraries: Working Together for Municipalities, Library Directors and Boards**, will be held on Saturday, May 2, 1998, at the Escanaba Public Library/City Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Registration is \$50. For more information, contact the Michigan Municipal League Education Services, P.O. Box 1487, Ann Arbor, MI 48106, 313-669-6315.

*Created by the Library of Michigan's Technology Trainer Anne Donohue and Network and Information Services to bring helpful tips to the Internet user, this column is a regular feature of the Library of Michigan's Access and is brought to you by the NII Council on Continuing Education (NICCE). NICCE members are committed to training and to continuing education in the area of technology and electronic information to librarians, library staff, trustees and communities. Please feel free to share this.*

## NETSCAPE COMMUNICATOR AND NAVIGATOR SHORTCUTS

### DRAFT BOARD

No—it's not a military conscription program. *Draft Board* allows you to store a message that you can't finish or don't want to send right away. If you have such a message in Netscape Communications Corporation's Communicator's Messenger, just click on the Save button from the Message Composition menu. The message will immediately be placed in a folder called drafts, which you can see from the dropdown folder list. If you want to return to the message, simply select it from the drafts folder. You can either edit or click the send button when the message is ready to go.

### FILE IT!

The best way to organize your messages is to keep them in folders, but you may find yourself frequently moving messages from folder to folder. The quickest way to move a message in and out of a folder is to select the message and then, using a PC mouse, right-click on it. Choose File Message from the menu that appears and then choose the folder where you want the message to go. This transfers the message.

### GETTING ATTACHED....

*Messenger* offers a quick and easy way to attach files to your mail messages. You may actually attach any type of file you want—programs, spreadsheets, graphics, sound, or video files. To attach files quickly, open the Composition window by creating a new message. In the address field to the left, click on the Attach Files & Documents icon (the paper clip), which opens an attachment area. You can now attach any file to your message by dragging and dropping its icon from your desktop into the attachments area. Continue with your message as you would any other mail message.

### WORD UP

The *Quick View Plus* plug-in from Inso Corporation is a useful Navigator extender. It lets you view any Microsoft Word 6.0 or 7.0 document directly from Navigator, so if you come across a document with a .DOC extension, you won't need to download it to a local file and open it in Word. *Quick View Plus* also has a few features that enable you to manipulate documents as well. For example, you can print the documents from Navigator, copy text to the Clipboard and paste it into other applications or change the look of the document. It's all possible from within the browser. You may download a free trial copy of *Quick View Plus* from <http://www.inso.com>.

### PLAYING WITH POWERPOINT

Microsoft *PowerPoint* is one of the most common presentation programs. A plug-in called *PointPlus* from Net-Scene Ltd. allows you to view any *PowerPoint* file directly from the Navigator browser. Presentation slides display with complete text formatting, text and background colors as well as sound. This plug-in makes it easy for groups and individuals to view a presentation over the web. You may download *PointPlus* for free from <http://www.net-scene.com>.

## THE ELECTRONIC LIBRARY: VITAL, VALUABLE, VIRTUAL

by Anne Donohue,  
Technology  
Trainer



On March 12, at the Public Library Association conference in Kansas City, Missouri, Library of Michigan Technology Trainer Anne Donohue and Library Network representative Eileen Palmer teamed up to present information about the Michigan Electronic Library (MEL) and *AccessMichigan*. Before a standing-room-only crowd, the two, along with Carol Roddy of the Ohio Public Library Information Network (OPLIN), discussed the advantages of developing Internet resources for libraries in Michigan and Ohio.

Donohue first identified MEL's mission and its access principles, including the commitment to provide reliable resources, access to all Michigan citizens and the development of community information networks. She explained MEL's current funding through the LSCA/LSTA grants and the training components that have helped library staff learn to use these databases.

Palmer discussed MEL's evolution. The group enjoyed a "virtual" tour of what MEL looks like today. A description of MEL's content, navigation areas and available advisor services followed. Palmer focused on the education section to highlight how MEL's overall collection development policy is complimented by individual policies in each category. After a quick mention of collaborations with other projects, such as the Automotive Information Center, and a plug for *Michiganlegislature.org*, it was on to the Libraries and Information Science section. The large content of that area was noted as well as recent

additions, such as the Internet—Using It in Your Library and a link to **AccessMichigan**.

Donohue returned to introduce the audience to **AccessMichigan**. She described how the Michigan Library Association, Michigan Library Consortium and the Library of Michigan conducted a collaborative study to unite ongoing projects and add substantive content. Funding for **AccessMichigan** included an initial investment of LSTA funds of \$1.5 million. Donohue concluded by describing planned future activities, such as adding more databases to the current selection and developing a common user interface.

Roddy introduced OPLIN. This state-funded network connects all but one of Ohio's 250 public libraries to the Internet. Roddy highlighted some of OPLIN's more successful aspects, such as OH! Kids section and OPLIN's collaboration with the Ohio Historical Society. OPLIN's future plans rounded out Roddy's portion of the program.

All three speakers, whose presentations were well-received, fielded questions from the group and invited everyone to visit the respective sites on the World Wide Web.

## GENEALOGY WORKSHOP REGISTRATION CLOSED

Registration for the April 17 workshop, *Genealogy and the Reference Librarian*, is now closed. Cosponsored by the Michigan Library Association and the Library of Michigan Foundation, the workshop had limited seating that is now filled. If you sent in registration and payment, MLA will issue refunds. Individuals successfully registered for the workshop will receive confirmation letters and a map to the workshop location at the Library of Michigan. If you would like information about future workshops, please email Sharon Granger at the Michigan Library Association at [grangers@mlc.lib.mi.us](mailto:grangers@mlc.lib.mi.us), or you may telephone 517-694-6615, extension 27.

*continued from page 1.*

different offices, they don't share that information. If a library staff person calls an organization or newspaper for an answer, s/he doesn't identify where the call is coming from. The staff person simply indicates s/he is calling from a library and has requests from many different sources.

### Reference Interview

When a patron calls, the library staff person tries to clarify the request so information that is the most pertinent may be provided. Sometimes the caller wants general overview materials or "a few good articles" on a specific topic. During the course of the call, the staff person gets delivery information, such as the office fax number, the ID mail address or whether a page will be sent to pick up the information. Deadlines are also discussed—is the information needed within the hour, within the day or at the end of the week?

The legislative team tries to provide a twenty-four-hour turnaround for most requests, but they always try to meet any deadline stated by the patron. For example, if a legislator on the floor of the House or Senate needs a fact, "we will gather our forces and locate what s/he needs stat," Harrison emphasizes. She adds that in 1997 the staff handled over 14,096 requests.

### Finding the Answers

Where does the legislative team find the answers? They have a variety of sources at their fingertips. In addition to the more traditional materials, such as statistical compilations, encyclopedias and historical volumes, staff regularly use the IAC and First Search databases (which are provided statewide through **AccessMichigan**), on-line databases such as ProQuest and Dialog and the Internet. Some Internet sites that have proved particularly useful are the Michigan Electronic Library (MEL), the National Conference of State Legislatures and other policy related sites. Staff also spend a great deal of time on the telephone, calling for specific information, finding leads or requesting copies. Interlibrary loan requests are also a regular part of locating information.

### Getting the Word Out

All legislative offices are regularly contacted and offered information updates regarding the services provided by the Library of Michigan. LM staff also meet individually with legislative staff to offer a better idea of how the library can help them with specific information. Information cards with key LM telephone numbers are sent to the offices. Following up on questions always seems to elicit more questions.

"With the term limits we will need to promote our services even more," says Harrison. "Term limits are affecting sixty-five legislators who will be leaving at the end of this session. This means that the need for our outreach will be even greater."

### Future Needs

Because the LM legislative team relies so heavily on modern technology to locate answers, their networking infrastructure at the Library is routinely updated to ensure accurate, up-to-date information for the legislative patrons.

If you would like more information about the Library of Michigan's legislative team's services, please contact the Reference Desk at 517-373-1300 or fax them at 517-373-5853. You can also reach the Library of Michigan home page at <http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us>.

## JUST IMAGINE

Just imagine a new urban library filled with rainbows from a skylight lined with light-catching and reflecting prisms. . . .

Just imagine a four-story circular atrium with bright, airy expanses and a point from which stacks and service desks radiate. . . .

Just imagine a public library with light sculptures created by Michael Hayden, the sculptor responsible for the award-winning United Airlines terminal at O'Hare Airport in Chicago. . . .

Just imagine a public relations firm (Biggs-Gilmore Communications) so enamored of this new library that it creates a whole new look: logo, street banners, stationery, grand-opening invitations. . . .

Just imagine a children's room with a storytelling castle, stained glass creations and pillars painted by local artists Conrad Kaufman and David Small. . . .

Just imagine a public library with eighty seven public-access computer terminals, including ten in a new training center. . . .

Just imagine having four mills to run this library!

You've just imagined the new Kalamazoo Public Library, which adopted "Just Imagine" as its new slogan to describe its new home.

The KPL's main building opened to the public on March 30; a formal public dedication was held on Saturday, April 18. The construction was financed by a 1995 electoral victory that provides the library with a total of 4 mills, the maximum allowed under Michigan law for district libraries.

The new facility, built on the foundation of the previous library, features a large atrium topped by a skylight approximately eighty feet above the lower level floor. Ringed by prismatic, light-sensitive materials, the atrium is filled with rainbows when the sunlight strikes them. Each of the four floors is built around the atrium, with service desks, shelving and public seating radiating from the center. The stacks are tucked in spaces away from the atrium.

The new library is a popular success in Kalamazoo. A pre-opening formal reception on Saturday evening, March 28, drew a glittering crowd of over one thousand people who enjoyed hors d'oeuvres, wine and the thrill of discovery in this wonderful new site. The following morning, the Kalamazoo Gazette featured a front-page story illustrated with a color photo, a wildly favorable editorial and a special section about the new building.

The Library of Michigan's Access would like to offer you a sampling of this delightful new structure with the pictorial at right. If you have the opportunity, stop by and see the real thing at the new Kalamazoo Public Library!



*KPL Director Saul Ambursky demonstrates some of the young adults specialized computer carrels to Library of Michigan computer specialist Paul Groll.*



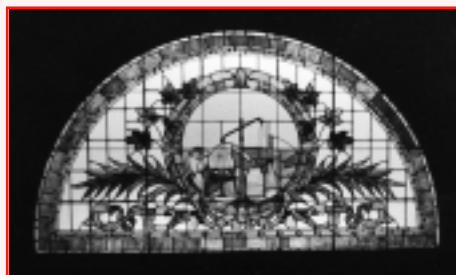
*Jack's beanstalk in the storytelling castle*



*Humpty Dumpty, created by local artist David Small, welcomes visitors to the children's library.*



*Ambursky shows off one of 87 public-access computers in the library.*



*One of three stained-glass windows preserved from the original library*



*A stained-glass portrait of Rip van Winkle*

## NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR INVESTMENT OF SURPLUS FUNDS

As reported in the January/February 1998 issue of *Access*, Public Act 196 of 1997, signed by Governor Engler on 30 December 1997 with immediate effect, creates substantial changes regulating the investment of surplus funds by units of local government. The act amends Public Act 20 of 1943, MCL 129.91 *et. seq.*, found on page 57 of the *Library Laws Handbook* published by the Library of Michigan.

The first significant changes for public libraries are the expanded definitions of a "public corporation" and its "governing body." The new statutory language includes an "authority or agency created by or under an act of the legislature of this state." Trustees of district libraries, in particular, should take special notice of this definition and realize the district library's status as an authority under Section 7 of the District Library Establishment Act.

The amended act requires the library board to adopt a resolution naming an investment officer and authorizing that officer to invest the surplus funds of the district library in one or more specifically defined investment instruments. These authorized investment instruments must be listed in an investment policy adopted by the governing board within 180 days of the end of the library's first fiscal year that ends after the effective date of the amendments.

Local units, including library boards, are not told what the investment policy should be. They are told, however, in Section 5 of the act to develop a policy that addresses at least the following items: the purpose, scope and objectives of the investment policy; the delegation of authority to the investment officer to make the investments; a list of the authorized investment instruments; and a statement concerning safekeeping, custody and prudence.

A financial intermediary, such as a broker, who deals with the investment of the surplus funds, must be provided a copy of the policy. The broker, in turn, must acknowledge the receipt of the policy and agree to comply with the terms of the policy.

Section 2 of the act indicates that in the absence of statutory or charter designation, as is the case with district libraries, the governing board of the library shall designate the investment officer. Whomsoever is appointed is required to annually provide a written report to the governing body concerning the investment of the funds.

The amendment generally provides local units of government more flexibility in their investment options if the governing board adopts an investment policy. The act permits, for example, investment in additional United States obligations, removing the requirement that they be directly guaranteed by the United States government.

District libraries should exercise care in this area and proceed only after consulting competent financial and legal advisors. Additional information may also be obtained from the Michigan Department of Treasury, Bureau of Local Government, Local Audit and Finance Division, 517-373-3227. Copies of Public Act 196 of 1997 may be found on the Internet at <http://www.michiganlegislature.org> or from Ellen Richardson, Library of Michigan, 517-373-1299 or email her at [ellenr@libofmich.lib.mi.us](mailto:ellenr@libofmich.lib.mi.us).

*Ellen Richardson*  
Library Law Specialist

# LSTA SUBGRANT APPLICATIONS: A SECOND OPPORTUNITY

By Jeff Johnson,  
Deputy State Librarian

A new opportunity for libraries to seek federal support will follow the close of the application period for LSTA subgrants for FY 98. The delayed start of the FY 98 LSTA subgrant application cycle means that the process will overlap with the startup of the next LSTA subgrant cycle. As a result, Michigan libraries of all types will have two opportunities to propose subgrant projects for consideration during 1998.

The first LSTA competitive subgrant cycle closed on April 1, 1998, when those subgrant proposals were due at the Library of Michigan. Still to come are the competitive Internet Access Grant applications which are due May 1, the Libraries for the Blind and Physically Handicapped with a July 15 due date and the Regions of Cooperation with a May 15 due date.

The FY '98 LSTA subgrants will be awarded in July 1998, with an expenditure deadline of July 30, 1999. Final narrative reports for these projects are due by September 30, 1999. This will be the schedule for the first year of the new Library Services and Technology Act subgrants.

The next opportunity for competitive subgrants will begin in May 1998, when the FY 1999 subgrant application materials will be released. All eligible academic, school, special, public and cooperative libraries will be notified, as will Regions of Cooperation and REMCs, which will be able to request an application package or to download materials directly from the Library of Michigan web page.

Applications for proposed LSTA projects in the competitive categories for FY '99 are due at the Library of Michigan by October 1, 1998. The awards are expected to be announced in February 1999 with an expenditure deadline of March 31, 2000 and final narrative reports due by June 30, 2000. This timetable is intended to be the standard schedule for each LSTA subgrant application cycle in succeeding years.

The LSTA subgrant program content will be much the same in FY '99, with a limited number of revisions made in light of the experience so far with the FY '98 application process. A major clarification in the Basic Library Technology category will allow FY '99 applicants to request up to \$25,000 **per site** in combined or collaborative projects. The limitation on multiple LSTA applications in the same funding area from a single applicant will be deleted in FY '99 to simplify eligibility rules in all competitive categories.

In the second year of LSTA subgrants, there will no longer be a separate Internet Access Grant application because these projects may be requested in the Basic Library Technology category in FY '99. Training will again be required as part of all proposals seeking funds to purchase Internet equipment and software, but the training will be decentralized to provide more flexibility. Applicants will now be able to utilize the many new sources of training, including the Internet Training Centers at the public library cooperatives as well as K-12 schools, academic and private sector trainers. Full details of the changes will be provided in the FY '99 subgrant application package, currently in preparation.

The upcoming LSTA subgrant cycle for FY '99 will continue to ask all applicants to carefully document their local needs and their record of resource sharing and collaboration with other libraries. The definitions of a "library" and of "eligible libraries" will remain unchanged from those stated in the LSTA publications for FY '98.

## MICHiCARD TRAVELS NORTH

by Carey L. Draeger  
Public Information Officer

Business Services director Janet Lavery traveled north in late April to the Alberta Library Conference in Jasper, Alberta, Canada. Approximately 500 delegates representing all types of libraries and public library trustees in Alberta Province attended the annual conference from April 30 to May 2, 1998.

Lavery was asked to speak on the Library of Michigan's MichiCard program, which began as a pilot concept to offer a statewide library borrowing card to state residents during the 1988-89 session of the Michigan legislature. Today, the MichiCard program is administered by the Library of Michigan; a statewide Library Card Advisory Committee provides assistance in developing and implementing operating policies and procedures.

MichiCard, a completely voluntary program, provides a key to the resources and information housed in Michigan's libraries. Through the increased availability of resources in participating libraries, library patrons have a passport to an expanded collection of knowledge and information and increased library access.

"Reciprocal borrowing among all types of libraries and the implementation of a provincial library card is one of our long-term goals," said Lucy Pana, executive director of the Alberta Library, which sponsored Lavery's session. "While there is a degree of support for the concept here in Alberta, there are also a number of concerns, the chief one being that an individual library's resources will be depleted by 'outside' clients."

While Lavery appreciated these fears, she said that during the course of the MichiCard program, participating libraries saw no drain on their resources. "Those libraries loaning large numbers of books and other materials from their collections are usually getting them back. Over 99 percent of the loaned materials are returned," she remarked. "And the cost of lost books is reimbursed by the Library of Michigan, so it's a win-win situation for libraries and patrons alike."

\*\*\*\*Books by Mail is a new service available through the Dickinson County Library to county residents outside a fifteen-mile radius of the main library in Iron Mountain or the Norway branch. According to Library Director Helen Holmstrom, patrons may have books and magazines mailed to their homes free of charge. Materials may be requested on an order form that the library provides.

\*\*\*\*The Hudsonville Bicentennial Library received a \$200,000 gift and a new name after city officials accepted a donation from the Gary Byker family. Byker, a 47-year-old Hudsonville resident and former state senator from the 23rd district, died in November 1997. His children offered the gift to the library in return for it being re-named in Byker's memory. The commission approved the plan and the name of the Hudsonville library was changed to the Gary Byker Library of Hudsonville. Library Director Melissa Huisman said the money donated by the family will be used to buy additional books and add to the library's existing plans for technology improvements. The library is currently making plans to undertake a \$1.2 million expansion and renovation project, slated for later this spring. "It didn't look for a while like there would be any money left over for books," Huisman said. "The most important thing is that we can actually have what should be in a library."

\*\*\*\*Once nestled for years behind an inconspicuous storefront, the tiny Alto Library, part of the Kent District Library, is now one of the town's more popular sites. The branch relocated in August 1996 to a 3,500-square-foot spot on the first floor of a renovated former grocery store on the town's main drag. "It was a big relief to move into a bigger space," said Library Manager Sandy Graham. "The public has found us and they're using us." The branch's circulation ranged from 20,092 to 22,046 from 1992 to 1996. Last year, circulation jumped to 26,079, a whopping 18 percent increase. The new location also offers more room for programming and meetings. And when the library moved, it received district grants to boost its collection and technology offerings. Now the library has three new computers complete with a library catalog. Two also have CD-ROMs. The Alto Library also increased its service schedule from 19 to 25 hours per week.

\*\*\*\*The Lapeer County Library and the Michigan Women's Historical Center are cosponsoring an intimate exhibit on the works and life of Marguerite deAngeli, one of America's best known authors and illustrators of children's books. The exhibit, currently on display at the Michigan Women's Historical Center in Lansing

through August 15, 1998, features many items from a large collection of deAngeli's illustrations, manuscripts, personal letters and other artifacts that were deeded to the Lapeer library by members of deAngeli's family. Items from this collection in the exhibit include deAngeli's Newbery medal, illustrations from the private collections of Nina deAngeli Kuhn (deAngeli's daughter) and Jeffrey and Robert Kuhn (deAngeli's grandsons), including the cover painting from *Door in the Wall*.

Marguerite Lofft deAngeli was born in Lapeer, Michigan, in 1889. Winner of the Newbery Medal in 1950 for her children's book, *Door in the Wall*, Mrs. deAngeli was later inducted into the Michigan Women's Hall of Fame in 1979. The Lapeer County Library also honored her by renaming the main library for her on August 22, 1981.

The Michigan Women's Historical Center is located at 213 W. Main Street, Lansing. Visitor hours are noon to 5:00 p.m. Wednesday through Friday and 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

\*\*\*\*The Garden City Public Library began its extensive renovation project on February 16. The \$300,000 project, funded by a federal



grant from LSCA Title II funds, was awarded by the Library of Michigan in 1997. This amount also includes capital from Community Development Block Grant Funds and the City of Garden City for asbestos ceiling abatement and ceiling replacement, new lighting, upgraded electrical wiring, new public restrooms and new carpeting. The library is temporarily closed to the public during this renovation period; it is tentatively rescheduled to open on June 1.

\*\*\*\*Gordon Conable, director of the Monroe County Library System, announced his resignation from that position at a special meeting of the library board members on February 23, 1998. Director since 1988, Conable has accepted a position as the vice president of West Coast operations for Library Systems and Services, a private company based in Maryland that manages libraries. His last day with the Monroe County system was March 20. "I was not job hunting," Conable said. "They approached me. I thought it deserved a look." In 1994 Conable was named Michigan Public Servant of the Year by the Michigan Public Management Institute and Public Administration Foundation.



Where are you going to, my pretty maid?  
I'm going a-milking, sir, she said.  
Illustration courtesy the Lapeer County Library

# HOW TO MAKE A GIFT TO THE LIBRARY OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION

by Jackie Payne  
Executive Director  
Library of Michigan Foundation

There are many ways to make a gift to support the Library of Michigan, all of which allow you to contribute to the service or collection of your choice. Your gift can benefit the Library now, in the future, or both, depending on what you want to accomplish and the assets you wish to donate.

The simplest way to make a gift is to **write a check** made payable to **The Library of Michigan Foundation** and specify in a note or letter sent with the check as to how you wish us to use your gift. Send your check to:

**The Library of Michigan Foundation**  
717 West Allegan Street  
PO Box 30159  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

You may also leave the Library of Michigan a gift in your will. This may provide substantial tax benefits for you and your heirs. Please tell us if you have included the Library of Michigan Foundation in your will so that we may acknowledge your gift and thank you while you are here to enjoy the recognition of the

library staff you have helped. Gifts specified in your will may include cash, stock, real estate, artwork or other personal property.

Life insurance may be used as a gift by making the Library of Michigan Foundation the owner and beneficiary of your policy. The tax benefits vary according to whether it is a paid-up policy or one on which you are still paying the premiums.

There are other ways of making a gift, such as the establishment of a charitable remainder trust, which may bring you income during your lifetime, reduce your income and estate taxes, support your heirs and benefit the Library of Michigan after your death. Please consult your attorney or tax advisor for specific information on your tax benefits.

Your employer may match your gift. Many companies match their employees' gifts to libraries or other nonprofit institutions. Consult your personnel office; you may be able to double or triple your gift by using your employer's matching gift program.

For detailed information on the advantages of making a gift to the Library of Michigan through the Library of Michigan Foundation please call Jackie Payne at 517-373-1297, email her at [jpayne@libofmich.lib.mi.us](mailto:jpayne@libofmich.lib.mi.us) or visit the Foundation on the World Wide Web at <http://www.libofmich.lib.mi.us>

Remember you determine what your money will accomplish now and after your death. You may leave a legacy that will benefit the Library of Michigan and the thousands of citizens of Michigan who use the Library every year. Please help the Library of Michigan reach its goals of better service to the citizens and libraries of Michigan by donating your support.

## Would you like *Access* to reach you directly?

If your library's copy of this newsletter does not always reach your desk or is delayed along the way, simply return this slip, giving us your name, title and address, and we'll send a copy directly to you. There is no cost for persons employed by a library, serving on a library board of directors or affiliated as a friend or volunteer at a library. Return to the address below.

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